



Setti D. Warren
Mayor

City of Newton, Massachusetts
Department of Planning and Development
1000 Commonwealth Avenue Newton, Massachusetts 02459

Telephone
(617) 796-1120
Telefax
(617) 796-1142
TDD/TTY
(617) 796-1089
www.newtonma.gov

James Freas
Acting Director

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

To: Interested parties

From: The City of Newton, on behalf of the Brookline-Newton-Waltham-Watertown Homelessness Continuum of Care

Date: October 7, 2015

The City of Newton Planning and Development Department, on behalf of the **MA-518 Continuum of Care**, invites nonprofit agencies and Public Housing Authorities serving Brookline, Newton, Waltham, and Watertown to submit permanent supportive housing and rapid re-housing proposals to be considered for inclusion in the 2015 MA-518 Continuum of Care submission to the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Up to **\$300,230** may be available to the MA-518 Continuum of Care for permanent supported housing or rapid rehousing projects, pending the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development's review and scoring of MA-518's application for McKinney Continuum of Care project funds. Applicants may apply for the full \$300,230 or for a portion of the funding.

To be considered for inclusion in the MA-518 Continuum of Care application, all proposed projects must provide new permanent supportive housing units targeted to chronically homeless individuals or families or new rapid rehousing to serve homeless families. All projects must serve homeless families or individuals in Brookline, Newton, Waltham and Watertown.

Pending upcoming meetings of the MA-518 Ranking Committee, additional funds may become available for a second permanent supported housing or rapid rehousing project.

Chronically homeless individuals are individuals with a disabling condition who have been continuously homeless for a year or more or have had four episodes of homelessness in the past three years. Chronically homeless families are families in which the head of household meets the definition of a chronically homeless individual.

Permanent supported housing is permanent housing with supportive services targeted to homeless individuals who need supports in order to remain housed.

Rapid rehousing is up to two years of housing subsidy assistance provided to families, individuals or youth to enable previously homeless people to stabilize and maintain permanent housing. Rapid rehousing includes supportive services, including employment services if needed, to ensure that households are able to maintain housing when rapid rehousing funding ends.

Applicants **may request up to \$300,230** for:

- acquisition/rehabilitation/new construction;
- leasing;
- rental assistance;
- operating costs , supportive services, and Homeless Management Information System (HMIS).

Projects are subject to match requirements.

Applicants that receive a successful initial award for operating funds (supportive services, operations, leasing, rental assistance, HMIS) are eligible to apply for annual renewal funding. Applicants for acquisition, rehabilitation, or new construction must request grant terms of at least 3 years. Please see <https://www.hudexchange.info/resources/documents/FY2015-NOFA-Policy-Requirements-and-General-Section.pdf> for additional details.

Applicants must commit to Homeless Management Information Service participation, or, for domestic violence agencies, a comparable database system.

Criteria for project selection include: agency capacity and experience, quality and appropriateness of project plan, thorough understanding of homeless population and McKinney program requirements, performance of past McKinney grants, if any, and amount of match and leverage for project. Commitment to active involvement in monthly meetings of the Continuum of Care will also be considered in rating projects.

For full information about eligible projects, budget limitations, and other requirements, please review materials at <https://www.hudexchange.info/resources/documents/FY2015-NOFA-Policy-Requirements-and-General-Section.pdf>

Additional resources are located at <https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/coc/>

Project applications must be submitted to www.hud.gov/esnaps no later than October 20, 2015 at 4:00 PM. Applicants will be notified whether their project will be included in the MA-518 Continuum of Care application no later than November 5, 2015.

For information about how to submit a new project to esnaps, please see the following:
<https://www.hudexchange.info/e-snaps/guides/coc-program-competition-resources/>

The link has detailed instructions about how to establish yourself as a project applicant (which you must do if you have never applied for McKinney funding before) and submit a new project.

The City of Newton and the MA-518 Continuum of Care invite project proposals from all eligible applicants.

If you have any questions or need assistance in understanding how to submit your proposed project in e-snaps, please contact:

Laura Spark
McKinney Consultant
MA-518 (Brookline-Newton-Waltham-Watertown) Continuum of Care
lauraspark@gmail.com.